

work cut out for us if we are to consider the 49 judicial nominations pending at the start of this week and others who are being nominated over the next few weeks.

In spite of our efforts last year in the aftermath of strong criticism from the Chief Justice of the United States, the vacancies facing the Federal judiciary are, again, approximately 70 and the vacancies gap is not being closed. We have more Federal judicial vacancies extending longer and affecting more people. Judicial vacancies now stands at over 8 percent of the Federal judiciary. If one considers the additional judges recommended by the Judicial Conference, the vacancies rate would be over 15 percent.

Nominees deserve to be treated with dignity and dispatch—not delayed for two and three years. We are seeing outstanding nominees nitpicked and delayed to the point that good women and men are being deterred from seeking to serve as federal judges. Nominees practicing law see their work put on hold while they await the outcome of their nominations. Their families cannot plan.

The President spoke about the vacancies crisis again last month. Certainly no President has consulted more closely with Senators of the other party on judicial nominations. The Senate should get about the business of voting on the confirmation of the scores of judicial nominations that have been delayed without justification for too long. We must redouble our efforts to work with the President to end the longstanding vacancies that plague the federal courts and disadvantage all Americans. That is our constitutional responsibility.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If all time is yielded back, the Senate will now proceed to vote. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Adalberto Jose Jordan, of Florida, to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of Florida? The yeas and nays have been ordered and the clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. McCAIN), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) are necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) would vote "yes."

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) are absent because of attending a funeral.

The result was announced—yeas 93, nays 1, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 262 Ex.]

YEAS—93

Abraham	Durbin	Levin
Akaka	Edwards	Lieberman
Allard	Enzi	Lincoln
Ashcroft	Fitzgerald	Lott
Baucus	Feinstein	Lugar
Bayh	Fitzgerald	Mack
Bennett	Frist	McConnell
Biden	Gorton	Moynihan
Bingaman	Graham	Murray
Bond	Gramm	Nickles
Boxer	Grams	Reed
Breaux	Grassley	Reid
Brownback	Gregg	Robb
Bryan	Hagel	Roberts
Bunning	Harkin	Rockefeller
Burns	Helms	Roth
Byrd	Hollings	Santorum
Campbell	Hutchinson	Schumer
Chafee	Hutchison	Sessions
Cleland	Inhofe	Shelby
Cochran	Inouye	Smith (OR)
Collins	Jeffords	Snowe
Conrad	Johnson	Specter
Coverdell	Kennedy	Stevens
Craig	Kerrey	Thomas
Crapo	Kerry	Thompson
Daschle	Kohl	Thurmond
DeWine	Kyl	Torricelli
Dodd	Landrieu	Warner
Domenici	Lautenberg	Wellstone
Dorgan	Leahy	Wyden

NAYS—1

Smith (NH)

NOT VOTING—6

Hatch	Mikulski	Sarbanes
McCain	Murkowski	Voinovich

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motions to reconsider are laid on the table.

The Senate will now proceed to vote on Executive Calendar No. 175. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Marsha J. Pechman to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington? The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. McCAIN), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) are necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) would vote "yes."

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) are absent because of attending a funeral.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CRAPO). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 93, nays 1, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 263 Ex.]

YEAS—93

Abraham	Bingaman	Byrd
Akaka	Bond	Campbell
Allard	Boxer	Chafee
Ashcroft	Breaux	Cleland
Baucus	Brownback	Cochran
Bayh	Bryan	Collins
Bennett	Bunning	Conrad
Biden	Burns	Coverdell

Craig	Hollings	Murray
Crapo	Hutchinson	Nickles
Daschle	Hutchison	Reed
DeWine	Inhofe	Reid
Dodd	Inouye	Robb
Domenici	Jeffords	Roberts
Dorgan	Johnson	Rockefeller
Durbin	Kennedy	Roth
Edwards	Kerrey	Santorum
Enzi	Kerry	Schumer
Feingold	Kohl	Sessions
Feinstein	Kyl	Shelby
Fitzgerald	Landrieu	Smith (OR)
Frist	Lautenberg	Snowe
Gorton	Leahy	Specter
Graham	Levin	Stevens
Gramm	Lieberman	Thomas
Grams	Lincoln	Thompson
Grassley	Lott	Thurmond
Gregg	Lugar	Torricelli
Hagel	Mack	Warner
Harkin	McConnell	Wellstone
Helms	Moynihan	Wyden

NAYS—1

Smith (NH)

NOT VOTING—6

Hatch	Mikulski	Sarbanes
McCain	Murkowski	Voinovich

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motions to reconsider are laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senator from Wisconsin, Mr. FEINGOLD, is recognized to speak for up to 30 minutes as in morning business.

THE SENATE WILDERNESS AND PUBLIC LANDS CAUCUS

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise to commemorate the 35th anniversary of the Wilderness Act of 1964, which was signed into law on September 3, 1964 by President Lyndon B. Johnson, and to announce the formation of a Senate Wilderness and Public Lands Caucus. The Wilderness Act became law seven years after the first wilderness bill was introduced by Senator Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota. The final bill, sponsored by Senator Clinton Anderson of New Mexico, passed the Senate by a vote of 73-12 on April 9, 1963, and passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 373-1 on July 30, 1964. The Wilderness Act of 1964 established a National Wilderness Preservation System "to secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness."

The law reserves to Congress the authority to designate wilderness areas, and directs the federal land management agencies to review the lands under their responsibility for their wilderness potential.

The original Wilderness Act established 9.1 million acres of Forest Service land in 54 wilderness areas. Now, after passage of 102 pieces of legislation